

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for controlling braking force of a vehicle, the vehicle having front and rear wheels and braking force generating apparatuses provided for each of the wheels, the device executing a braking force distribution control operation that restricts an increase of a braking force on the rear wheels, generated by the braking force generating apparatuses of the rear wheels, to provide a braking force distribution among the front and rear wheels, biased to the front wheels, under a predetermined condition, wherein as the front wheel braking force increases during execution of the braking force distribution control operation, the device controls the braking force generating apparatuses of the front wheels to ~~further~~ increment the front wheel braking force beyond the braking force increase by an amount based on a restricted amount of the braking force on the rear wheels.

2. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 1, further comprising a master cylinder receiving a braking action by a driver of the vehicle and providing an operational fluid pressure corresponding to the braking action to wheel cylinders in the braking force generating apparatuses; wherein the increase of the braking force of the rear wheels is restricted by restricting an increase of pressures in the wheel cylinders of the rear wheels; and wherein the front wheel braking force is incremented by (1) determining an increment in the wheel cylinders of the front wheels based upon the braking action by the driver, the pressures in the wheel cylinders of the rear wheels and parameters each indicating a braking performance of one of the respective braking force generating apparatuses of the front and rear wheels, and (2) incrementing pressures in the front wheel cylinders based upon the determined increment.

3. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 2, wherein the vehicle has a sensor monitoring a vehicle speed, and wherein the parameters indicate braking performances which decrease as the vehicle speed increases.

4. (Previously Presented) A device for controlling a braking force of a vehicle, the vehicle having front and rear wheels, a braking system that generates braking forces on the respective wheels, and at least one sensor that monitors an operational condition of the vehicle, including a detector that detects an amount of a braking action by a driver of the vehicle, the device executing a braking force distribution control operation in which a braking force on the rear wheels is lowered in comparison with a braking force on the front wheels when an operational condition monitored by a sensor among the at least one sensor satisfies a predetermined condition, wherein the braking force on the front wheels during execution of the braking force distribution control operation is increased, and wherein a braking force increment on the front wheels beyond the braking force increase corresponding to the braking action is determined based upon an increment of the braking action by the driver detected by the detector.

5. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 4, wherein the braking force increment on the front wheels is determined based upon the increment of the braking action and the braking force on the rear wheels.

6. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 4, wherein during execution of auxiliary braking control for increasing braking force on the wheels beyond braking force corresponding to the amount of braking action by the driver in addition to execution of the braking force distribution control, the braking force increment on the front wheels is determined based upon the increment of the braking action and an increment of braking force requested by the auxiliary braking control.

7. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 4, wherein the braking system comprises a hydraulic circuit connected with a master cylinder and braking force generating apparatus including wheel cylinders provided for the respective wheels; the braking action is reflected in a pressure in the master cylinder pressure, wherein during execution of auxiliary braking control for increasing braking force on the wheels beyond braking force corresponding to the amount of the braking action by the driver in addition to execution of the braking force distribution control, the braking force increment on the front wheels is determined based upon a difference between a current master cylinder pressure and a rear wheel cylinder pressure at the starting of the braking force distribution control and an increment of braking pressure requested by the auxiliary braking control; and in the absence of auxiliary braking control, the braking force increment on the front wheels is determined based upon a difference between the current master cylinder pressure and the rear wheel cylinder pressure at the starting of the braking force distribution control.

8. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 7, wherein the rear wheel cylinder pressure at the starting of the braking force distribution control is a sum of the master cylinder pressure and an increment of braking pressure requested by the auxiliary braking control to the rear wheels at the starting of the braking force distribution control while any auxiliary braking control is executed.

9. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 7, wherein the increment requested by the auxiliary braking control is the increment requested to the rear wheels when increments requested to the front and rear wheel cylinders by the auxiliary braking control are different from each other.

10. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 4, wherein the braking force increment on the front wheels is substantially equal to the restricted amount of the braking force on the rear wheels.

11. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 6, wherein the auxiliary braking control is a braking assist control executed when an abrupt braking action is executed.
12. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 4, wherein during execution of the braking force distribution control, the braking force on the rear wheels is held at a predetermined value.
13. (Previously Presented) A device of claim 7, wherein during execution of the braking force distribution control, the pressures in the rear wheel cylinders are held at a predetermined pressure.